

16 is mainly attached to the archive server 9. Additional monitors 9a, 16a and 14a are connected with the respective devices 9, 16 and 14.

Figure 2 shows a method procedure with which a first computer 100 having an AFP print job file 23 generates an AFP document data stream 101 ~~is generated and which is~~ used together with a font mapping table object container 20. This document data stream 101 is sent to a second computer 102 having a print system 25 associated therewith. A user creates a text file 18 in which the special instructions for conversion of characters (for the font mapping) by an installation and/or an application are defined. A simple help computer program (buildFMcom) 19 is used for this in order to thereby generate a font conversion table (font mapping table) in the AFP object container format. The user can then optionally send the font mapping object container 20 to a system AFP resource library 21 that is available for all applications that require a character conversion, and/or he can place the font mapping container 20 in a specific user library, such that it is available for selected applications. The user then sets whether the name of the font mapping object container 20 exists as an installation-wide parameter (for example, by means of Li.iNi in an AFP environment) or is data stream-specific in a document data corollary file, in what is known as a job ticket 22.

In addition to the document data stream ~~23~~ 101, the job ticket 22 and the system library 21 are also used to prepare a modified document data stream ~~23~~ 103 by means of a presentation computer program 24 at the second computer 102. By means of the information for character conversion present in the job ticket 22, and the conversion tables or corresponding font

mapping object containers 20 in the system library, the modified data stream 103 is prepared by the presentation computer program 24 for output on ~~[[a]]~~ the print system 25.

In the method shown in Figure 3, document data stream 101 of an application are sent ~~as an~~ from the AFP print job file 23 from a source server as first computer 100 to a target server as second computer 102 for purposes of printing. Instead of ultimately outputting the job at modified document data stream 104 on a print system 25 such as shown in Fig. 2, it could also be output in an archiving system or be transferred to a different output device such as, for example, an e-mail system. The application uses the same font mapping object container 20 as the application shown in Figure 2, whereby the font mapping object container 20 is stored in an AFP system library 21 (AFP resource library).

Via the job ticket 22, or via a suitable other input or interface, the character-conversion table or the corresponding font mapping object container 20 of the system library 21 to be used for processing the document data stream is determined by its name. By means of a resource pack computer program 26 ~~(i.e.)~~ 105 (CIS), all resources that are required for preparation of the modified document data stream 104 for the job are collected and copied together to an application-specific AFP resource file 26. For this, the resource pack computer program 105 can be set to the following two modes:

MODE 1. All character-calls (instruction in the AFP document data stream 101 calling a particular font) including the font mapping object container

20 are [accepted] passed through unchanged so that no character conversion is implemented by the resource pack computer program.

This is the normal situation when installations use standard character collections.

MODE 2. The character conversion is implemented and the corresponding replacement fonts or target fonts are compiled or assembled by the resource pack computer program. They are normally taken from the system library 21. Furthermore, after this character conversion, the font mapping object container 20 is emptied, such that no further font conversions occur in later method steps, such as at the second computer 102.

The AFP document data stream 32a 101 for AFP print job file 23 as well as the AFP resource file 26, are then transferred from the first server (first computer 100) to the second server (second computer 102) together with the other resources (as the case may be, also with the target fonts to which they are mapped), and there are supplied to [[a]] the presentation computer program 24 (SPS). The font mapping object container 20 is thereby comprised provided in the AFP resource file 26.

The presentation program 24 at the second computer 102 reads the document data stream and implements the following operations, depending on the content of the font mapping object container 20:

OPERATION 1. When the font mapping object container 20 comprises instructions for conversion of fonts, [[t]] the presentation program implements these conversions or replacements. The corresponding

target font data (font data) are thereby locally available, in particular via the AFP resource file 26.

OPERATION 2. In the case that the font mapping object container 20 in the AFP resource file 26 (which was transferred from the first server first computer 100) to the second server (second computer 102) together with the AFP document data 23a 101) is empty, then the document data are processed such that no font conversion occurs by the presentation program even though a character conversion may have been implemented by the resource pack computer program in Mode 2.

Additional resource data or object containers can be specified without anything further that are used in connection with the font mapping object container.

The preferred embodiment is in particular suitable to be realized as a computer program (software). It can be disseminated as a computer program module as a file on a data medium such as a diskette or Control device-ROM, or as a file via a data or communication network. Comparable computer program products or computer program elements are also possible embodiments. The procedure can be applied in one or more computers, in a print device or in a print system with upstream or downstream data processing devices. In particular, a computer program, run alone on a computer or in cooperation with a second computer program running on a second computer, can effect a method embodiment procedure. It is thereby clear that corresponding computers on which the preferred embodiment is applied can